

REMARKS

This is a full and timely response to the outstanding final Office Action mailed July 1, 2005. Reconsideration and allowance of the application and presently pending claims are respectfully requested.

1. Present Status of Patent Application

Upon entry of the amendments in this response, claims 2-3, 6-8, 10-25, 28, and 30-33 remain pending in the present application. It is believed that the foregoing amendments and additions add no new matter to the present application.

2. Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's indication that claims 14-21 would be allowable if rewritten to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Accordingly, claims 14, 15, and 16 have been amended to include the limitations of their respective base and intervening claims and are believed to be allowable. Further, claims 2-3, 6-8, and 10-23, as presented, depend from respective independent claim 14 and are also believed to be allowable.

In addition, claims 24, 25, 28, and 33 have been amended to include novel features shared with claim 14 and are believed to be allowable. Accordingly, claims 30-32 depend from independent claim 28 and are believed to be allowable.

Applicants respectfully submit that the amendments are in compliance with 37 CFR 1.116 & MPEP § 714.12 and should be entered. Additionally, Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is in condition for allowance.

3. Cancellation of Claims

Claims 1, 4-5, 9, 26-27, and 29 are canceled without prejudice, waiver, or disclaimer, and therefore, the rejection to these claims are rendered moot. Applicants take this action merely to reduce the number of disputed issues and to facilitate early allowance and issuance of other claims in the present application. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the subject matter of these canceled claims in a continuing application, if Applicants so choose, and do not intend to dedicate any of the canceled subject matter to the public.

CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing amendments and for at least the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully submit that all objections and/or rejections have been traversed, rendered moot, and/or accommodated, and that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the present application and all pending claims are hereby courteously requested. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephonic conference would expedite the examination of this matter, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned agent at (770) 933-9500.

Respectfully submitted,


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